

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office  
FLOOR DEBATE

March 15, 2005      LB 4, 47, 101, 107, 136, 177, 193, 218, 227  
237, 256, 268, 274, 276, 389, 407, 465, 484  
505, 545, 557, 566, 664, 682, 683, 693, 703  
739, 761  
LR 2

amendments; and LB 136 indefinitely postponed. Confirmation hearing reports from the Transportation Committee, two separate reports. And amendments to be printed: Senator Kruse to LB 107; Senator Howard to LB 177; Senator Loudon to LB 739. And Mr. President, I have the designated Speaker priority bills list as provided by the Speaker, to be inserted in the Journal. (Re: LB 4, LB 47, LB 101, LB 193, LB 218, LB 227, LB 237, LB 256, LB 274, LB 276, LB 389, LB 407, LB 465, LB 484, LB 505, LB 545, LB 557, LB 566, LB 664, LB 682, LB 683, LB 693, LB 703, LB 761, and LR 2CA.) That's all that I have, Mr. President. (Legislative Journal pages 859-870.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Mr. Clerk, LB 268.

CLERK: LB 268 is a bill by the Urban Affairs Committee and signed by its members. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 10 of this year, referred to the Urban Affairs Committee, advanced to General File. At this time, I have no amendments to the bill, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Senator Friend, Chairman of the Urban Affairs Committee, you're recognized to open on LB 268.

SENATOR FRIEND: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the Legislature, LB 268 involves the Volunteer Emergency Responders Recruitment and Retention Act, proposing to change the nature of the trust fund holding the assets for a service award program to ensure that benefits accruing to individual participants are not taxable in the year which they become nonforfeitable. The act...LB 849, adopted in 1999, established the authority for first and second class cities, villages and fire protection districts to establish service award benefit programs to encourage the recruitment and retention of volunteer firefighters and rescue squad personnel through the adoption of the volunteer emergency responders recruitment and retention incentive act. Individual cities, villages, fire protection districts or combinations of them could establish service award benefit programs which would qualify persons who met specified service criteria to receive service benefit awards based on at least ten years of continuous active service. The awards would